

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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Number 16

WITHIN THE WEEK

The occupation of Odessa by the Red Army in a matter of some 48 hrs contrasts strikingly with the weary wks which the Nazis invested originally in wresting this vitally important sea base from the Russians. Coupled with the fantastically rapid progress of the Russians in the Ukraine, and more recently in the Crimea; their penetration of the Balkan countries; the fact that Hitler reportedly is calling an urgent conference of his war partners and satellites to seek further and immediate aid, the net picture tempts superficial observers to the conclusion that we approach the final phase of the European war.

Such interpretation is, we believe, premature. We remain convinced that the climax cannot come until after the establishment of firm invasion bridgeheads. We note and respect opinions of Gen'l Bradley and Rep May as to manpower cost of coming invasion, but doubt practicability of accurate forecasts. There has been no operation in military history remotely comparable to coming invasion. We don't doubt ultimate success, but without precedents, how can we foretell the cost?

INDIA-BURMA-CHINA: We find it difficult to comprehend complacency of British in face of 1st invasion of India by Japanese troops. Early stages of 3-prong

drive on Imphal rated little publicity. Yet this base is within 400 mi of Calcutta. Successful occupation would place enemy in position to flank Ledo road which American and Chinese troops have cut across in Burma. And it would highlight political failure of United Nations in Asia. (Word at mid-wk is that British have somewhat improved their position in India.) There is a suggestion that Allies are attempting a limited line of contact across in Burma before monsoon season. Japs' main effort is to dig in, get a toehold, try to stir internal revolt.

For 18 mo's or more we have reported bad Chinese political situation. We now point to a change: it is getting worse. War news from India is disturbing. And Chinese don't like Russian-Japanese agreement. While it's true Japan surrendered coal and oil concessions on Sakhalin, the fishing pact was renewed. China fears Russian withdrawal from war after defeat of Germany, sees Jap effort to knock China out of war this yr.

FRANCE: Sec'y Hull's intimation that while U S cannot now recognize French Committee, that group will be permitted to administer civil gov't within liberated nation, does much to clear issue. While DeGaulle may not exactly throw up his hat with joy, neither does he have to throw up his hands in despair.



SHIFTING SANDS

With spotlight turned on 4-F's for possible service in labor battalions, it's interesting to note they total about 3½ million, or nearly half the strength of the Army. . . . League of Nations statistical yearbook for '42, just issued (Columbia U Press) shows Germany only important nation with declining birth rate. Infant mortality rate is up, too—from 62 per 1000 in '39 to 68 in '42. (U S mortality rate: 40 per 1000.) . . . OPA announces that out of 520,000 new cars in ration pool in Feb '42, only 30,000 are left. Of this number 10,000 will be held in reserve, remainder rationed to eligible motorists by July 1. . . . Producers' Council proposes that expenses for architectural and engineering services be termed deductible from income taxes, thus spurring advance planning for postwar construction. . . . Leaders in construction industry are agitating for revision of municipal building codes, which don't reflect experience with modern materials.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"That love bug most o' used up all his red points on you!"—EDDIE ANDERSON, to "ARCHIE", on the *Duffy Tavern* radio program.

" "

"Bus drivers, hod carriers and coal diggers have rec'd pay increases ranging up to 50%, while the salaries paid our teachers have risen only 6% in the past three yrs."—Sen TOM STEWART, Tenn.

" "

"I want to give the Japs a try now. I don't think they're as tough as the Germans."—Sgt CHAS EDW KELLY, 1st U S serviceman in Italy to win Congressional Medal of Honor. Coming home on furlough, he seeks transfer to air forces.

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"If I were eighteen I would emit several hearty cheers for my good luck in being a woman in the U S in the yr 1944—a place and a time where there is a maximum of opportunity to exercise my abilities with a minimum handicap because of my sex."—RUTH BRYAN OWEN.

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"Is it necessary to show fat gentlemen and perspiring ladies and smoke-filled rooms and fights among the delegates to people who still have faith in the processes of political conventions?"—HELEN ES-SARY, in *Washington Times-Herald*, commenting on plan to show nat'l political conventions by television.

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"The Lord gave me the eye for some good reason. If I couldn't use it, I am sure He would have wanted me to give it to you."—Mrs E E JOHNSON, whose right eye, sightless since childhood, provided the cornea which, fortnight ago, was grafted on the damaged left eye of RICHARD BIENVENU, of New Orleans. The delicate operation appears successful.

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"The real reason women know so little about men is because they think they know so much . . . Some day I am going to write 14 vol's entitled 'Things Every Girl Should Know Before She Makes Love.' I doubt whether many will read beyond the introduction. But I will feel that I have done my duty."—Dr WM MOULTON MARSTON, in *Argosy*.

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"We will fight our way home!"—New battle cry of Norwegian shipping men. (When invasion signal comes they pledge that ships of Norway, wherever they may be, will come to the aid of their country.)

"The first month of the invasion of Europe will cost the U S forces a maximum of 150,000 casualties, or about three times the losses incurred in current operations. This is the figure the armed forces and selective service are reckoning on tentatively for reinforcements. It includes killed, wounded, captured and otherwise lost for duty."—Rep ANDREW J MAY, chairman, House Military Affairs committee.

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"This stuff about tremendous losses in an invasion is tommyrot. . . We have the best soldiers and best equipment and more of it than the Germans ever dreamed of. After a few days of it, you won't have anything to worry about. In the Tunisian campaign we lost only an average of 3 or 4 men to a thousand. Certainly seeing a show like this ought to be worth that chance." Gen OMAR N BRADLEY, addressing American officers preparing for invasion of Europe.

"The number of German soldiers who do not ret'n to the front after they have been on leave has risen so greatly during recent wks that military police have been reinforced. In the big cities there are already regular agencies that provide deserters with clothes, false papers, railway tickets, etc. Many are going 'underground' in this fashion."—*St Gallter Tagblatt*, issue of Mar 11.

"Education is not concerned primarily with intellectual luxuries, but with elements which make the individual a valuable member of society."—WM M LEWIS, pres, Lafayette college.

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"Look, soldier, you wouldn't make a liar out of me for 10 yds, would you?"—Gen DWIGHT D EISENHOWER, when a private soldier corrected his estimate of the range of a mortar.

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"Read them? Why I can't even lift them!"—Mrs DORINE VAN BERG, St Louis poultry dealer, charged with violating OPA regulations, when asked if she had read the rulings related to her business.

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"Your recent missive was most welcome. Over here, even a letter from you is news from home."—Note rec'd by Los Angeles Collector of Internal Revenue, in response to an income tax blank mailed to a serviceman now stationed in the s-w Pacific.

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"If businessmen had taken a more active interest in education, some of the crackpots with half-baked ideas would not have found a toe-hold in our schools . . . I would like to see legislation passed in every state that the only 'ism' to be taught in our schools would be Americanism."—Capt EDW V RICKENBACKER.

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"It is true, as everyone knows, that there have been increases in some items—clothing, for example. But these increases have been fully offset by decreases in the prices of other items, notably foods."—From a report read by Pres Roosevelt on the 1st anniversary of his "hold-the-line" order.

" "

"I want to state definitely for Mr Ford, Chas A Lindbergh and myself, if and when Mr Smith ever attempts to include us with his supporters, nothing is farther from our intentions." — HARRY H BENNETT, personnel director of Ford Motor Co, in a statement to offset implications by GERALD L K SMITH, organizer of America First party, that he has support of Henry Ford and associates.

"There are enormous difficulties involved in trying to force some new doctrine or set of ideals upon the Japanese. You can thrust bayonets or food down people's throats, but not ideas."—WM M HOLLAND, in forum discussion, "What to do with Japan?", *Free World*.

"This hospital food certainly makes a man out of you. If I lose one more pound around the chest, it's going to make a man out of me, too."—GYPSY ROSE LEE, hospitalized (for pneumonia) at Ft Bragg, N C, during a tour of Army training camps.

Profound Observation, wk ending 4-15-44: "From all available reports, blame for the recruiting lag lies with those who have not joined."—N Y Times.

"Police are hereby notified to shoot all dogs found running loose without licenses. This also applies to constables."—A notice in the *Idaho Falls (Idaho) Post-Register*.

"The Church of England is more in agreement with the Russian Orthodox church than with the Catholic. Both the Church of England and the Russian church repudiate the claim of the Pope of Rome as vicar of Christ."—REV CYRIL FORSTER GARBETT, Archbishop of York, now visiting in U S.

"They want women with plenty of birthdays behind them. Those older women are steadier and just as efficient as the younger ones, and they're not crazy over men."—G E FREEMAN, director of vocational education, state of Tenn, after a conference with representatives of 60 industrial organizations.

"There's lots of good in a country whose army will take the trouble to bring one of its soldiers halfway around the world to be with his wife during her last few days on earth."—T/Sgt PAUL WAGGAMON, flown from an army air base in India to his home in Wooster, O, to be with his dying wife on their wedding anniversary.

"There is a divinity that shapes our ends—but we can help by listening for its voice."—KATHLEEN NORRIS.

"I predict Germany will be out of the war within 60 days."—Sgt ALVIN YORK, hero of World War I.

"Liberals meet in Washington these days, if they can endure to meet at all, to discuss the tragic outlook for all liberal proposals."—ARCHIBALD MACLEISH, Librarian of Congress, addressing dinner in honor of DOROTHY THOMPSON.

"As we (the U S) see it, Germany and Japan ought not to be allowed to enter the internat'l aviation picture within any future that I am prepared to foresee."—ADOLF A BERLE, Jr, ass't sec'y of State, speaking in London.

"When do you tell the customers what goods you're going to make, and what prices you're going to charge? As I see it, orders on the books are an indispensable ingredient in anybody's postwar plans."—HENRY J KAISER, urging that definite steps replace nebulous planning.

"The British Gov't cannot censor expressions of opinion on domestic or foreign affairs. In every respect the British press is as free of gov'tal control as the American press."—A spokesman for British Information service, commenting on a statement by Rep MICHENER, Mich, that "Everything the British papers print is censored."

"I suppose it was started by Radio Tokio, but it is spread by the same people—sometimes politics and sometimes propaganda."—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, commenting on hard-to-kill rumor that she had advocated 6 mo's quarantine for soldiers ret'g from tropics.

"This decision, which I and my family believe furthers nat'l unity, is final and irrevocable."—King VICTOR EMMANUEL, of Italy, announcing his withdrawal from public affairs, in favor of his son, Crown Prince HUMBERT, effective "the day Rome falls." (He has reigned 43 yrs.)

"Don't waste food; remember, the folks back home are rationed."—Signs posted in Army centers abroad.

"Couldn't you add that you are going to bring me back a Chinese ball player?"—CLARK GRIFFITH, pres, Washington baseball club, discussing with v-p HENRY WALLACE his anticipated visit to Chungking.

"All's well. The old man's still there!"—Cry of Yanks in Anzio, after each enemy bombing. (Reference is to the statue of a venerable Roman, standing in the middle of the city square.)

"Despite the fact that our mobilization has been twice as great as during the last war, the cost of living has risen less than half as much."—Economic stabilization director FRED M VINSON.

"Don't talk to me about food! On one hotel menu in N Y there were something like 160 different dishes. Yet I heard some people say, 'There's not much variety!'"—JOHN HENRY JONES, Manchester steel smelter, who, with other British trade unionists recently visited U S war factories.



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COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

Why Cassino Failed to Fall

JAS E ROPER

Cassino Front, Italy—Failure to provide more infantry for the latest attacks on Cassino was partly result of high command's belief that terrific bombardment would leave Germans dead or "bomb happy." This was a tragic mistake.

Part of the failure must be attributed to inaccurate bombing. I saw sticks of bombs sown across the valley and town and up nearby mountains. Perhaps 45% hit the city. Pilots blamed their wild misses on defective bomb racks.

Cassino was turned into a cauldron of fire, smoke and rubble, but the Germans came up out of tunnels to resist the infantry.

Allied intelligence apparently had not considered the possibility of the Germans utilizing the ancient tunnels under Cassino, although the Todt labor groups were known to have been working in Cassino as far back as Jan.

Some officers now feel they should have guessed the tunnels were being incorporated in Cassino's defensive network.

The one thing the bombing has done is to make the streets impassable for armor. With the armor stuck, Cassino remains a job for infantry, and that's what the Allies haven't had enough of.

The failure to use more infantry seems to have been due primarily to miscalculation, although our gen'l have not had unlimited resources at their command.

Cassino offers lessons that every Allied gen'l will study before the opening of the Western front.—*United Press Dispatch.*

ANTI-SEMITISM—Defined

When Teddy Webb, Chicago hoodlum, was finally captured, after killing three policemen, he pleaded to keep his newspaper clippings. He gloated in these press notices of his "success."

The anti-Semite thrives similarly on proofs of his stupidity and brutality.

He loves to hear how idiotic he is, how devoid of common decency. Such accusations inflame him with a sense of power. As a man of sense and decency he was nobody. As a creature who outrages the world, he is a mighty figure.—**BEN HECHT, *A Guide for the Bedevilled* (Scribner's).**

AVIATION

The Glenn L. Martin super-flying ship which recently won American design award is estimated to weigh 250,000 lbs. It will carry 102 passengers, each with 80 lbs baggage and, in addition, 25,000 lbs of mail and cargo. It will travel from U S to London in 13 hrs.

BALLOT—Soldiers

My father told me that when Abraham Lincoln was running for his second term, the captains of each company lined up their men and shouted:

"All who vote for Lincoln, one pace forward." They did the same for Gen'l McClellan. The votes were counted quickly, sent in without delay.

In my opinion, what was good enough for Lincoln ought to be good enough for Franklin Roosevelt and his opponent, too.—**GEO T HAGGARD**, in a letter to *Collier's*.

CHURCH—Attendance

Often you hear people say that they "live the Christian life" altho they have no dealings with churches. As a matter of fact, they are not living the Christian life. Christ, Himself, founded the Christian church and commanded His disciples to preserve and defend it.—**MORGAN BLAKE, *Atlanta Jnl.***

CONTRAST

Erich Maria Remarque, author of *All Quiet on The Western Front*, a famous book based on World War I, was asked whether the mss was derived from a diary kept during the period of the war.

"No," said the author, "I kept no diary. I wrote my book 10 yrs after the war, in a country place blooming with flowers."

"Did you write anything at all during the war, while you were living the horror of it?"

"Yes," Remarque answered, "I wrote poetry—about flowers." —**LEONARD LYONS, syndicated col.**

Rhymes of the Times

Our servicemen in the s-w Pacific are amusing themselves by fashioning prognostications on war's end into appropriate rhyming phrases. Here are a few currently popular:

"End the war in '44."

"Home alive in '45."

"Back to the sticks in '46."

"Seven eleven in '47."

"The Golden Gate in '48."

"Carolina in Forty-Nine."

And one, not too optimistic individual has adopted as his particular pet: "Dixie in '60."

DIET

According to Gallup poll, 45% of adult Americans use no citrus fruits, tomatoes or juices in daily diet; 38% no eggs; 34% no cheese or milk; 25% no green leaf or yellow vegetables; 12% no fish, poultry or meat; 8% no fruit or potatoes; 3% no enriched bread or whole grain cereal.

DRINK—Drinking

Liquor spokesmen show how much armament can be bought by Federal taxes on their business. A much more impressive set of figures is the tabulation of how much fighting equipment could be paid for by money spent on intoxicating beverages. The \$4½ billions spent on drink in '42 could have supplied: 20 aircraft carriers at \$75 millions each; 10 battleships at \$60 millions each; 2,000 flying fortresses at \$450,000 each; 2000 heavy bombers at \$300,000 each; 2,000 heavy tanks at \$145,000; 4,000 fighter planes at \$75,000 each; 2,500 anti-aircraft guns at \$25,000 each; 2,500 75-mm cannon at \$14,000 each; 10,000 heavy machine guns at \$930 each; 2,500,000 Garand rifles at \$80 each. And we'd still have a credit balance of \$3,200,000.—Editorial, *Christian Science Monitor*.

EDUCATION—Good and Bad

We have commonly used the word education as tho all education were good. That will no longer do. There is no more educated nation on earth today than Germany, but something has gone terribly wrong with it.—Dr HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK, N Y pastor.

EDUCATION—Purpose

Your diploma should serve as a passport admitting you to the company of the trained and the educated. . . But it is even more important that you know and understand the language, thought and aspirations of the untrained and uneducated. You and your generation will be the great test of what this generation has called education.

If that education contains any human wisdom, that wisdom must be chiefly employed for the benefit of those in humble places. Without such wisdom you cannot serve as stewards of the education represented by this institution.—Edw C ELLIOTT, pres, Purdue U, addressing the graduating class.

EFFICIENCY—Exemplified

"Perkins, Parkins, Peckham, and Potts—good morning."

"I want to speak to Mr Perkins."

"Who's calling, please?"

"Mr Pincham of Pincham, Pet-tam, Poppum, and Pogg."

"Just one moment, please. I'll connect you with Mr. Perkins' office."

"Hello, Mr Perkins' office."

"I want to speak to Mr Perkins."

"Mr Perkins? I'll see if he is in. Who's calling, please?"

"Mr Pincham."

"Just one moment, Mr Pincham. Here's Mr Perkins. Put Mr Pincham on, please."

"Just one moment, please, I have Mr Pincham right here. Okay with Perkins, Parkins, Peckham, and Potts, Mr Pincham. Go ahead."

"Lo, Jo? How's about lunch?"

"Okay."—*The Casualty & Surety Journal.*

FASHION—Parisian

Paris laughs at the story of a German officer who, shortly after the fall of France, strode into a small stocking shop and stripped its shelves. "Now," he brayed, "it is

the turn of the German women to wear silk stockings."

"But, monsieur," responded the pert salesgirl, "if Parisian women cease to wear silk stockings, it will no longer be the fashion for others to do so."

GARDENING—Lament

No matter how the seasons pass, My lawn is always spurned by grass, Which sprouts and flourishes and spreads

In lily, rose, and rhubarb beds.

—RUSSELL PETTIS ASKUE, *Christian Science Monitor.*

GOD—Terms

Because of their desire to keep the movement entirely nonsectarian and unorthodox, the Alcoholics Anonymous often refer to the Supreme Being (always reverently) as "the Man Upstairs." And God does not seem to mind; He works for them.—CLINTON E BERNARD, "The 24-Hr Plan," *Good Business*, 4-'44.

I read
In a book
That a man called
Christ
Went about doing good.
It is very disconcerting
To me
That I am so easily
Satisfied
With just
Going about.

—*Arkansas Baptist.*

IGNORANCE

Richard Burke read—at a producer's request—the proposed script for a Western play.

"What did you think of it?" asked the producer, eagerly.

"Well," replied the candid Burke, "It must be a collaboration. One guy couldn't know so little about the West."—CLIP BOUTELL, *Chicago Sun.*

INGENUITY

Lieut Col Victor Krulak had to "use his head" to become a marine officer. At Annapolis he lacked a quarter-inch of the required height for an officer, so he wrapped his head in towels and had a friend drop a brick on his noggin. Up came a nice lump, just enough to meet requirements.—AP dispatch.



**CONFIDENTIALLY
THRU A
MEGAPHONE**

Tho the problem is admittedly tough, some progress is being made in curbing the black mkt in gasoline. Ultra-violet rays and other scientific aids are picking out the counterfeits, and the new cross-check system for tracing stolen coupons is beginning to work. OPA officials are hopeful.

What's postwar prospect for radio amateurs? We can now report definitely that steps have been taken to provide channels not only for all present license-holders, but for thousands of new "hams" who will turn to radio as a hobby.

One more bulletin on chain letters: A current version asks that a 25c War Stamp be sent to person whose name appears at head of list, adds: "This chain has been approved by postal authorities, as it promotes the sale of War Stamps." 'Tain't so! P O Dept has never approved chain letters; isn't likely to, even with the patriotic angle.

On objection of Catholic League of Decency, Wanger educational film on venereal disease has been withdrawn from public theatrical showing. League had no specific complaint of this film, which featured prolog by Dr Thos Parran, surgeon-gen'l of U S, but cites code of Motion Picture Industry which reads: "Sex hygiene and venereal diseases are not subjects for motion pictures." . . . When Canadian radio broadcaster Churchill's latest, word "entrails" was substituted for "guts", . . . Frank Capra has produced 40-min film for U S War Dept on "The Negro Soldier." Will be distributed free to exhibitors thru War Activities committee.

Veterans of S Pacific fleet are ret'g on furlough with gold rings hanging from lobe of one ear.



ARMY: New method of smothering flames that envelop crashed planes has been demonstrated at Jacksonville, Fla. Blanket of carbon dioxide and spray of water under tremendous pressure does the job.

MEDICINE: Vaccine tested on soldiers during last influenza epidemic gave protection in 3 out of 4 cases. Consisted of inoculation beneath skin of concentrated inactivated influenza Type A vaccine. Study involved 12,000 soldiers at 8 training centers. (*Jnl American Med Ass'n.*)

A study of cold vaccines and incidence of common cold among industrial employees in 5 geographic locations brought "no clearly evident protection;" led doctors to conclusion that "indiscriminate use of cold vaccine is not the answer to problem of industrial absenteeism due to acute respiratory infections." (*Jnl American Med Ass'n.*)

Reports on the use of sulfa drugs in the common cold are not encouraging according to recent tests by Drs R L Cecil and W G Smillie, who used sulfadiazine, found it did not shorten or alter course of uncomplicated colds. They oppose its use except for selected cases as protection against severe secondary infection or complications. (*R N, Jnl for Nurses.*)

NAVIGATION: One lb navigational instrument has been designed for use in life-boats. Made of plastics, combines sextant for use during day, and quick means of determining true north, sun time, latitude, great circle course and direction. (*Ships.*)

PLASTICS: Plastic ethyl-cellulose wrappers now protect machine parts in overseas shipping. Parts are dipped in heat-liquefied substance. Rubberlike coating is easily removed by slitting.

MONEY—Value of

Money may not buy happiness, but you can certainly purchase a change of misery with it.—*Louisville Courier-Jnl.*

MUSIC—Jazz

Another definition was given by Grandma Warm when she said: "I don't know just what hot music is, except it is the kind that leaves me cold."—*TRAMP STARR.*

PEACE

Peace, when it comes, will not last long if it is merely a grab bag in which each nation... seeks to take reckless advantage of associates and neighbors.—*A A BERLE, Jr, asst sec'y of State.*

PRAYER

An elderly pastor, slowly pacing the church court, was overheard praying:

"Help me, Lord, to get coal for Mrs _____, and some food for the _____ family, and—and that other case—I forget now what it is; but You know; attend to that, also, Lord, please."

I think that is beautiful. It is God-intimacy. He walked and talked with God as with an old friend.—*War Cry.*

PRECISION—in Terms

A couple, blessed with their first child, did not get to the hospital quickly enough; the child was born on the hospital lawn. When the bill came in the husband objected to the charge, "Delivery Room, \$25." He ret'd the statement for correction. In due time it came back to him, revised to read: "Greens Fees, \$25."—*Digest & Review.*

PRICES—in Wartime

Outside a Broadway restaurant hangs this sign: "Due to conditions, all 5c articles two for 15c, all 10c articles 15c straight."

PROGRESS

Kitchens are so convenient now that a housekeeper needs nothing more—except a degree in electrical engineering.—*Republican Banner.*

RATIONING

A delicatessen man of our acquaintance tells of a patron, cheese-

hungry and ration-point poor, who recently ordered six cheese sandwiches. The sandwiches were prepared, wrapped in oiled paper and placed in a sack. The customer accepted the bag, removed the oiled paper, took out the cheese, placed that in the bag, paid his bill and departed, leaving the bread.—*TED ASHBY, in his syndicated col.*

RELIGION—Rites

Rites full of dignity, movement, color, sensuous appeal, richly freighted with the devotion of the ages, are natural to man; bare, unadorned, unimaginative worship (often miscalled "spiritual") cannot draw and hold men.—*W NORMAN PITTENGER, reporting the conclusions of a gathering of educators, Christian Century, 4-5-'44.*

"Well Spoken!"

"A barking dog is often more useful than a sleeping lion."—*WASHINGTON IRVING* " " " "To the man who knows not to what port he sails, no wind is favorable."—*SENECA* " " " "The chains of habit are too weak to be felt until they are too strong to be broken."—*DR SAM'L JOHNSON* " " " "Reason often makes mistakes, but conscience never does."—*JOSH BILLINGS.*

RESOURCEFULNESS—in Emergency

If there were a medal for quick thinking I know a GI who ought to receive it:

Stationed in Hawaii, this private heard one morning that an inspection was in the offing. He resolved to hide out.

The inspecting col, well pleased with the outfit, decided, as an afterthought, to have a look at the bomb shelters.

In the first one entered, our hero was reclining. As the col approached, the private leaped to his feet, snapped a salute, and reported: "All bomb shelters present and accounted for, sir!" — "Service Chuckles," *American Mag.*

Moments in the Minutes

Excerpt from the unrecorded minutes of a benefit committee meeting:

"I wish some one could think up something besides a rummage sale or a tea. We've got to make at least \$1,500 this time."

"Well, Betty, the Far Afield crowd made \$2,700 with their tea and I heard—"

"Did you go? Everybody was talking about Martina Maybe's hat—"

"She's doing her hair a new way; I wonder who she goes to? I'd like to change mine, it's so ratty—"

"Girls, look, we have to think about this party. I wonder if we couldn't sponsor something."

"Let's have it downtown and then we can get the men to come."

"What men? Where are they?"

"Joan, did you know that Peggy Lester and Bob are having a terrible row—he got home on leave last week and found out she'd sold all the—"

"Madame Chairman, I move we give a combination tea dance and rummage sale as soon as we can. And we'll all really have to get to work on it."

P. S.—The funny part about this is the girls will do it. When the treasurer's husband helps her add up the profits, there'll be enough money for the new play-ground at the day nursery, or whatever else they're after. Don't laugh, gentlemen. You hold committee meetings, too.—SARAH BROWN BOYDEN, *Detroit News*.

RESPONSIBILITY—Ownership

In a Texas town a corporal parked an army jeep alongside a parking meter, got out and started down the street.

The town constable, watching the performance, called after him:

"Hey buddy, you'd better drop a nickel in that meter."

The soldier stopped and turned: "Put it in yourself," he replied. "That jeep belongs to you as much as it does to me."

That is an example of what happens when we begin to get away from individual ownership and private interest. Nobody feels any responsibility for anything so long as everything "belongs to you as much as it does to me."—*Business Wk.*

SALESMANSHIP

To keep your feet on the ground, suggests an insurance publication, fill your name in the blank space provided below:

"No salesman who is unwilling to pay the full price in hard work can succeed, excepting _____ who, by some mysterious hocus-pocus, can pay half-a-price and still get the full reward."

SECRECY

One requires an assortment of passes to get into most Washington bldgs and alphabetical agencies. But

the Dep't of Justice bldg, which houses the FBI, and is popularly supposed to be bursting with secrets, requires no pass at all! Anyone can walk into the Justice bldg and stroll all over the joint.—GEO DIXON, "And Now Washington is Safe!" *American Mercury*, 4-44.

WAR—Personnel

Japan is willing to lose ten million men to win! Are we? Not by a long shot. Even if we can make it ten for one, that's still a horrible price.

To make it approach ten for one, the American people must be made to realize the nature of our enemy; they must be driven to heights of smoldering fury against that enemy which will forbid a letup when the Germans capitulate. — *Stet*, hm Champion Paper Co.

WOMEN—In Wartime

A pin initialed "WAM" sold right and left in Washington recently. The enterprising jeweler who brought it out meant it for women who were doing "without a maid" for the duration. Most of his customers, however, seemed to be teen-aged gov't girls.

"Why mister," one exclaimed, "don't you know 'WAM' means 'without a man!'"—*Disabled American Veterans' Magazine*.



Curses on You!

There's a certain lure to the phrase vindictive. And rare indeed is the individual who hasn't been tempted at times to indulge. But, fortunately for the victims, "Nobody seems one penny the worse!" Here are a few choice examples from the pages of the past:

May the strong curse of crushed affections light

Back on thy bosom with reflected blight!

And make thee in thy leprosy of mind

As loathsome to thyself as to mankind.

—PERCY SHELLEY, addressing LORD ELDON, who, 128 yrs ago this wk, pronounced a decree depriving the poet of the custody of his children, because of his flight from England with Mary Godwin.

" "

May I meet him with one tooth and it aching, and one eye to be seeing seven and seventy devils in the twists of the road, and one old timber leg on him to limp into the scalding grave. There he is now crossing the strands, and that the Lord God would send a high wave to wash him from the world.—JOHN MILLINGTON SYNGE, *The Playboy of The Western World*.

" "

May the grass grow at your door and the fox build his nest on your hearthstone. May the light fade from your eyes, so you never see what you love. May your own blood rise against you, and the sweetest drink you take be the bitterest cup of sorrow. May you die without benefit of clergy; may there be none to shed a tear at your grave, and may the hearthstone of hell be your best bed forever.—*Traditional Wexford curse*.

Little Mary was heartbroken when her pet canary died, and to pacify her, her father gave her an empty cigar box and, with much ceremony, assisted in burying the box in the garden.

"Dad," whispered Mary, after the funeral was over, "do you think my little canary will go to Heaven?"

"I believe he will, dear," replied the father. "Why?"

"I was only thinking," murmured the youngster, "how cross St Peter will be when he opens the box and finds it isn't cigars after all."—*Capper's Wkly.*

" "

General Montgomery and General Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, were having an audience with the King—so the story goes.

The business finished, Montgomery swept away dramatically.

Brooke said: "I guess I won't be seeing much more of you Your Majesty. You know Montgomery is trying to get my job."

"Oh," said the King, "That's a relief. I thought he was trying to get mine."—*Financial Post.*

" "

They tell an amusing story of a prominent churchman who recently stood outside a service-men's center in a southern city, inviting men in uniform to enter and partake of refreshments. As a young officer approached, he was asked: "How about a cup of coffee?"

The officer promptly pulled out a dime and gave it to the churchman, hurrying on before that flustered individual could offer an explanation.

" "

Back in the days when one could still journey from Coast to Coast via automobile, without the formality of ration coupons, a Scandinavian, recently arrived in this country, bought himself a 2nd-hand car and started for California.

In the fullness of time he arrived, and after the customary exchange of affectionate greetings the Pacific Coast relatives asked for a road report.

"Vell," said the Scandinavian judiciously. "That man Lincoln, he is great engineer; but that Frenchman De Tour—ach, he is no road-builder at all!"

GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

LEONARD LYONS
Columnist

It was at Mt Wilson observatory.

A distinguished scientist was scanning the heavens thru the huge telescope. Intent upon the sight, he remarked to his colleagues without turning his head, "It's going to rain."

"What makes you think so?" queried a brother scientist.

Still peering at the heavens, the astronomer replied:

"Because my corns hurt!"—*Coronet.*

An Easterner, with no ability for judging distances in the high altitudes and clear atmosphere, moved to a small city in the Rocky Mountains. A friend invited him by telephone to drive over to the foot of the hill for a visit.

Remembering the scarcity of gas, and not wanting to get his car out for so short a drive, he set out on foot the following morning. At 3 p m his friend found him, footsore and weary, sitting dejectedly beside a small stream not more than four feet across.

"What are you doing sitting here?" his friend asked.

"I'm waiting for a blankety-blank ferryboat," he exploded.—*Successful Farming.*

" "

"But my dear," bleated the poor little henpecked husband, "What have I done now? You've been talking for half an hour, and I haven't said a word."

"No," snapped his wife, "you haven't said anything, but you've been listening in a most aggravating manner, and I'm not going to stand for it."—*Cumberland Presbyterian.*

It is rumored that in New Jersey the mosquitoes are so big, so strong and so choosy that before biting a serviceman, they turn over his dog tag and read the inscription to see whether the blood type appeals sufficiently to them.—*The Link.*



Nature abhors a vacuum, even in the heads of statesmen.—CLARE BOOTH LUCE.

" "

When women kiss, it always reminds me of prizefighters shaking hands.—H L MENCKEN.

" "

German gen's in Russia have hit on a new technique. Whenever the Reds attack they send back 100,000 runners to ask for help.—*Boston Globe.*

" "

Already it is being asked to what purpose the Pentagon bldg can be put after the war. The size and gen'l locality seem right for stabling white elephants.—*Detroit News.*

Kindhearted Old Lady: "Poor man, and are you married?"

Beggar: "Bless my heart, lady, do you think I'd be relying on total strangers for support if I had a wife?"—*L & N Mag.*

